



# Banco de la República | Colombia

Somos el banco central de Colombia

Guide for Detecting

Damaged Banknotes and Coins Friday, June 7, 2024 - 12:00

This guide summarizes the criteria that should help financial institutions, securities transportation companies, and users to identify the type of banknotes and coins that are **unfit** for circulation and should therefore be delivered to *Banco de la República* (the Central Bank of Colombia) to be exchanged for banknotes and coins in **good condition**.

## 1. Banknotes1.1. Soiling

A banknote is considered soiled when the entire surface of the banknote is dirty, making it difficult to check its security features. Its main consequence is an increase in the optical density of the banknotes, making soiled banknotes darker than clean ones. The following are some examples of **unfit** banknotes for this reason. A banknote with the same or a higher degree of soiling is considered damaged and should not be circulated:

50 MIL PESOS

AA00400515



50

COLIBRI PIQUICORVO  
*Pomphylaxis vindex*



GERENTE GENERAL



GERENTE EJECUTIVO

BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA

COLOMBIA

GABRIEL GARCÍA  
PRÊMIO NOBEL  
LITERATURA

LA SOLIDIDAD DE HERENCIA LATINA  
UNA NUEVA Y AMPLIADA  
VISTAZO DE LA VIDA, CON  
NUEVO PUEDE DECORAR  
OTROS VASTOS LA FORMA DE  
MORIR, CONDE DE VIENTOS DEL  
CERVO EL BARRIO Y DEL HIMALAY  
LA FUSION, Y CONDE LAS  
CONDICIONES CONDICIONALES DEL  
MUCHO DE CULCADO FUNDAR POR  
JEN Y PINE SEVERE UNA  
MISMA DISPONIBILIDAD SOBRE  
LA TIERRA  
DANIEL GARCIA MARCHESI



CIUDADO PERDIDA,  
SIERRA NEVADA DE SANTA MARTA



19 DE AGOSTO DE 2015  
IMPRESA DE BILLETES - BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA

CINCUENTA MIL PESOS

## 1.2. Stains

Stains are localized concentrations of grease, oil, paint, ink, or any other substance. Some examples of banknotes that are considered **unfit** for this reason are shown below:



50 MIL PESOS

AB60435507

50 MIL PESOS



AB60435507

BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA COLOMBIA

CONJUNTO GENERAL

CONJUNTO EJECUTIVO

RESERVA FEDERAL DE COLOMBIA

50 MIL PESOS

AB17233256



50



CINCUENTA

AB17233256

BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA  
COLOMBIA

### 1.3. Writing and drawings (graffiti)

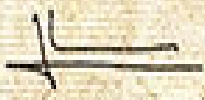
These correspond to the banknote's deterioration due to the writing of figures, letters, or drawings on the banknote's surface. Some examples are shown below:



**5 MIL PESOS**

**AA15493517**



  
GERENTE GENERAL

  
GERENTE EJECUTIVO

**BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA**  
**COLOMBIA**



**MELANCOÍA**

DE TODO LO VILADO,  
TENIA, LA LUZ Y LAS TENDIDAS BUNDE  
Y EN LA MELANCOÍA  
QUE DEL TIEMPO AL CIELO NOS CONDUCE.  
  
SE HERRIDO REFLEJO DE ESE CIELO  
EN UN BRILLANTE LENTE,  
CON QUE ANUNCIABA LAS SOMBRAS, LA HERIDA  
DE SUS CAYO FINALES.  
  
LEVE DEPONIA DE DIO  
QUE UNA ALMA E COTR BLAS CON SUS MUDAS  
DOLTA BARRATA,  
QUE EN LO PROFUNDO DE LO BARRITO BALLE  
  
Y QUE EN LAS REMANIDAS DE LA VIDA  
SE FIERDE Y SE CONSUME  
ESPI SE FIERDE UNA GOTA DE BODÓ  
BARRA UN VENTURA QUE EL BARRADO CONFINA  
  
JUAN MANUEL BARRA



BI

5000



ABEJORRO  
BARRA 19

19 DE AGOSTO DE 2015  
IMPRESIÓN DE BILLETES - BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA

CINCO MIL PESOS

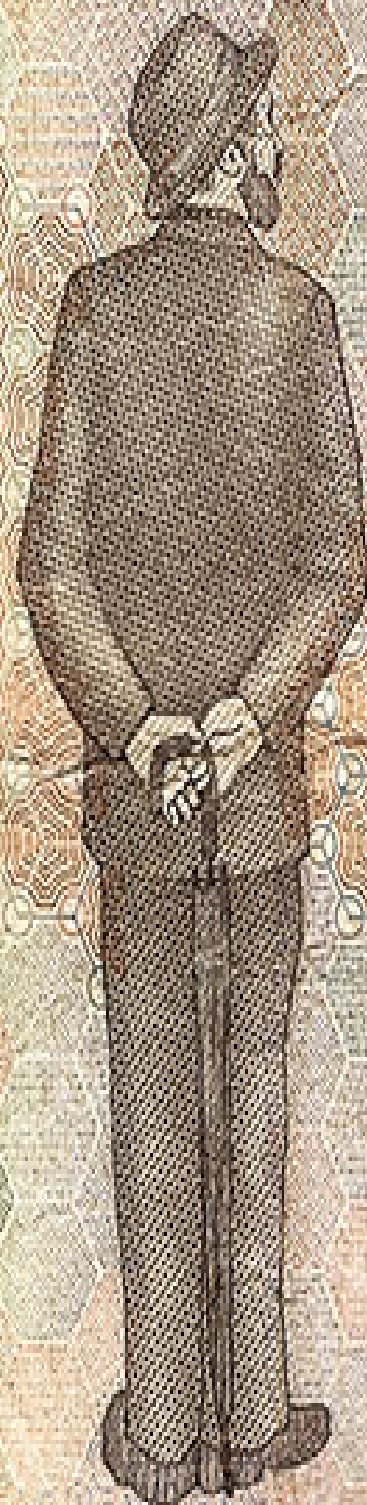
COLOMBIA  
AGUA

**5** MIL PESOS

AA07342330



PUYA  
*Agave puyana*



GERENTE GENERAL



GERENTE EJECUTIVO

**BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA**  
**COLOMBIA**

MELANCOLÍA

DE TODO LO VILANO,  
TANQUE, CLAVES Y MORTAJONES SUENA  
VIAJE MELANCOLÍA  
QUE DEL DÍA AL CIELO NOS CONDUCE.

HE HECHO REFLEXIÓN DE ESTE CIELO  
EN SU BRILLANTE LUMEN  
CON CUI REFLEJO LAS SUPERFICIAS MUEVEN  
DE SUS OJOS AZULES.

LEVE CORDÓN DE ORO  
QUE UN PLANO A OTRO PLANO CON SUS ALAS UNA  
OVAL DE SANGRE,  
QUE EN LO PROFUNDO DE LO BREVETE TRAZA,

Y QUE EN LAS INTENCIONES DE LA VIDA  
SE PERDIO Y SE LLEVARE  
CUAL SE PERDIO UNA OTRA DE NUESTRO  
NUESTRO LAS VENTAS CON EL BOPALORO TUBERNO.  
JUAN MANUEL DE LOS



ABEJONERO  
Abeja sp.

CINCO MIL PESOS

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COLOMBIA  
BILLETES

#### 1.4. Stamps

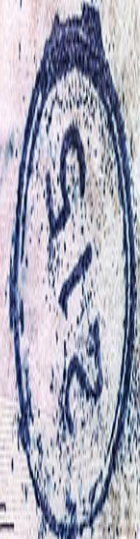
Stamps affixed by entities or establishments cause premature deterioration of the banknotes, thus making them unfit for circulation due to their size or ink density.



50 MIL PESOS

AB15357702

REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA



CINCUENTA MIL PESOS

AB15357702

GERENTE GENERAL

GERENTE EJECUTIVO

BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA COLOMBIA

### 1.5. Mutilations and holes

Banknotes that show perforations caused by tears, hooks, etc., or that have suffered the removal and alteration of one of their parts or some security feature such as thread, etc. The fraction of the banknote to be evaluated may or may not include the serial number of the banknote, but in no case should it be less than 50% of its original surface.

The following are examples of banknotes that should be considered **unfit** for circulation:



MIL PESOS

AE33029721



CINCUENTA

AE33029721

GOBIERNO GENERAL

GOBIERNO EJECUTIVO

BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA

COLOMBIA

### 1.6. Wrapping

This classification corresponds to banknotes that have suffered a cut or tear causing total or partial detachment of some of its parts and that have been repaired with adhesive tape, using elements of the same banknote, and, therefore, do not comply with the conditions to continue in circulation. Some examples are presented below:



50 MIL PESOS

AC27601286



CINCUENTA

AC27601286



GERENTE GENERAL

GERENTE EJECUTIVO

BANCO DE LA REPÚBLICA

COLOMBIA

## 2. Coins

Deteriorated coins are those pieces that show darkening, folds, deformations, burns, perforations, rust impregnation or coating, or other elements that alter their appearance.

### 2.1. Darkening

When the stain is uniformly present over the entire surface, a coin is considered to be darkened, making it difficult to establish its authenticity. The following are examples of different degrees of this condition that will allow the identification of a coin deteriorated for this reason:



## 2.2. Bends and deformations

These are coins that show alterations in their shape or size due to a force applied by an external element.



### 2.3. Burns

An alteration produced by the action of fire and heat, by contact with certain chemical products, by electricity, by radiation, or by friction.



## 2.4. Perforations

An alteration caused by external elements that penetrate or pass through the coins.



### 2.5. Impregnation or coating of rust or other elements

An alteration caused by a chemical reaction or by the impregnation of elements in the coin, producing changes in its appearance, color, and texture.

